11/21/88

LOUISIANA LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

BATON ROUGE
P.O. Box 94094

Phyllis C. Mouton, Secretary

SEPTEMBER, 1988

RELEASE DATE:
October 25, 1988

LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

(In thousands)	PRELIMINARY SEPTEMBER 1988				REVISED AUGUST 1988				REVISED SEPTEMBER 1987			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	1,928.4	1,741.9	186.5	9.7	1,924.5	1,731.0	193.5	10.1	1,936.5	1,736.1	200.4	10.3
LABOR MARKET AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	60.9	55.5	5.4	8.8	61.1	55.3	5.8	9.5	61.1	55.9	5.2	8.5
Baton Rouge 2/	266.0	242.7	23.3	8.8	263.2	239.0	24.2	9.2	263.7	240.5	23.2	8.8
Houma - Thibodaux 3/	68.8	62.3	6.5	9.4	68.9	62.4	6.5	9.5	71.1	62.1	9.0	12.6
Lafayette 4/	98.2	89.5	8.7	8.8	98.8	89.7	9.1	9.2	98.4	87.7	10.7	10.8
Lake Charles 5/	75.1	67.2	7.9	10.6	75.9	67.8	8.1	10.7	75.2	66.3	8.9	11.8
Monroe 6/	68.7	62.3	6.4	9.3	67.8	61.3	6.5	9.6	69.2	63.1	6.1	8.8
New Orleans 7/	598.6	546.2	52.4	8.7	603.1	549.8	53.3	8.8	601.0	545.6	55.4	9.2
Shreveport 8/	164.6	149.3	15.3	9.3	164.4	148.5	15.9	9.7	167.0	151.2	15.8	9.4

Parishes included in above Labor Market Areas are listed at the end of the Employment and Payroll Trends narrative.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana was estimated at 1,504,000 for September, an increase of 7,600 from the August revised level and 11,100 above the comparable period a year ago. Seasonal employment gains in public and private schools were mainly responsible for the upturn in nonmanufacturing industries. The state's manufacturing employment increased due to seasonal growth in food and kindred products in the nondurable goods sector.

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Durable goods employment for September, estimated at 74,900, was 300 higher than last month. Employment in the machinery, except electrical, industry was up in part due to increased production of oil field machinery.

Estimated employment in the nondurable goods segment of manufacturing, at 95,700 for September, was 900 above the August level. Food and kindred products employment was up due in large part to a seasonal increase in vegetable canning.

Nonmanufacturing employment for September, at 1,333,400, was 6,400 above the August revised level. Mining employment fell by 200 workers. A downturn in heavy construction accounted for the decrease in total construction payrolls. Contributing to the slight upturn in transportation and public utilities employment were increases in trucking and warehousing payrolls. Trade employment for September was higher as both the wholesale and retail segments experienced increases. A decrease in banking was instrumental in the lower level of employment in finance, insurance and real estate. Services employment was up due in large part to a seasonal increase in educational services. Within government, a seasonal increase in state education employment was responsible for most of the increase in nonmanufacturing employment for September.

Average weekly earnings of Louisiana's 124,700 production workers in manufacturing increased from $465.13 in August to $466.82 in September, a gain of $1.69 but a decrease of nine cents from the comparable period a year ago. Average hourly earnings were four cents higher in September than last month but $0.16 lower than the year-ago figure. Average weekly hours for September were unchanged from the August revised figure of 42.4.

Total unemployment for Louisiana during September was 186,500, a decrease of 7,000 below the August revised level of 193,500. The unemployment rate for September was 9.7 percent, compared to 10.1 percent for August and 10.3 percent for September 1987. The comparable national unemployment rate for September was 5.2 percent, compared to 5.4 percent for August and 5.7 percent in September a year ago. Louisiana's civilian labor force moved from 1,924,500 in August to 1,928,400 in September, an increase of 3,900. Total employment moved from 1,731,000 in August to 1,741,900 in September, an increase of 10,900 workers.

The state's unemployment rate may fall in the upcoming months as seasonal employment upturns occur. Trade employment is expected to increase as workers are added in preparation for the holiday season. Educational services should continue their growth next month as a result of the new school term for both the public and private sectors.

1/ Rapides Parish only. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Includes Lafourche and Terrebonne parishes. 4/ Includes Lafayette and St. Martin parishes. 5/ Calcasieu Parish only. 6/ Ouachita Parish only. 7/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, St. Tammany , St. Charles and St. John the Baptist parishes. 8/ Includes Bossier and Caddo parishes.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	September 1988*	August 1988**	September 1987**	Net Change from August 1988	Net Change from September 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	1,504.0	1,496.4	1,492.9	+ 7.6	+11.1
MINING	54.7	54.9	55.0	- 0.2	- 0.3
Oil and Gas Extraction	52.0	52.2	52.2	- 0.2	- 0.2
Nonmetallic Minerals	2.7	2.7	2.8	0	- 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	83.3	84.6	81.1	- 1.3	+ 2.2
MANUFACTURING	170.6	169.4	165.8	+ 1.2	+ 4.8
Durable Goods	74.9	74.6	70.8	+ 0.3	+ 4.1
Lumber and Wood Products	12.2	12.3	12.4	- 0.1	- 0.2
Furniture and Fixtures	0.6	0.5	0.8	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	5.5	5.5	5.6	0	- 0.1
Primary Metal Industries	3.1	3.0	2.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Fabricated Metal Products	11.8	11.8	10.8	0	+ 1.0
Machinery, Except Electrical	9.5	9.3	8.3	+ 0.2	+ 1.2
Electrical & Electronic Equipment	6.8	6.9	7.3	- 0.1	- 0.5
Transportation Equipment	22.8	22.8	20.5	0	+ 2.3
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.6	2.5	2.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Nondurable Goods	95.7	94.8	95.0	+ 0.9	+ 0.7
Food & Kindred Products	20.3	19.7	21.0	+ 0.6	- 0.7
Apparel & Other Textile Products	9.5	9.4	9.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Paper & Allied Products	12.2	12.2	11.9	0	+ 0.3
Printing & Publishing	10.3	10.3	10.2	0	+ 0.1
Chemicals & Allied Products	26.0	25.9	25.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.6
Petroleum and Coal Products	12.5	12.4	12.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Petroleum Refining	11.5	11.5	11.3	0	+ 0.2
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	4.9	4.9	4.9	0	0
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	105.7	105.6	104.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.9
Railroad Transportation	5.2	5.2	5.3	0	- 0.1
Transportation, ex. Railroads	60.4	59.9	59.2	+ 0.5	+ 1.2
Water Transportation	23.6	23.5	22.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
Communication & Electric, Gas & Sanitary Ser.	40.1	40.5	40.3	- 0.4	- 0.2
Communication, Exc. U S Postal Service	18.0	18.1	18.2	- 0.1	- 0.2
Electric, Gas & Sanitary Services	22.1	22.4	22.1	- 0.3	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	365.3	364.9	365.4	+ 0.4	- 0.1
Wholesale Trade	83.6	83.5	82.5	+ 0.1	+ 1.1
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	46.3	46.1	45.2	+ 0.2	+ 1.1
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	37.3	37.4	37.3	- 0.1	0
Retail Trade	281.7	281.4	282.9	+ 0.3	- 1.2
Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc.	58.8	58.3	57.8	+ 0.5	+ 1.0
Food Stores	56.4	56.0	57.6	+ 0.4	- 1.2
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	31.2	31.2	30.9	0	+ 0.3
Eating & Drinking Places	84.9	85.3	85.7	- 0.4	- 0.8
Other Retail Trade	50.4	50.6	50.9	- 0.2	- 0.5

LOUISIANA - CONTINUED
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	September 1988*	August 1988**	September 1987**	Net Change from August 1988	Net Change from September 1987
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	84.2	84.3	84.8	- 0.1	- 0.6
Banking	24.3	24.5	25.1	- 0.2	- 0.8
SERVICES	332.6	329.7	326.3	+ 2.9	+ 6.3
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	22.6	22.9	21.6	- 0.3	+ 1.0
Personal Services	14.7	14.6	13.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.8
Business Services	59.1	59.8	59.0	- 0.7	+ 0.1
Auto Repair, Services & Garages	9.3	9.4	9.9	- 0.1	- 0.6
Miscellaneous Repair Services	5.3	5.4	5.3	- 0.1	0
Amusement & Recreation Services	9.7	9.8	9.8	- 0.1	- 0.1
Health Services	104.2	104.0	102.2	+ 0.2	+ 2.0
Legal Services	15.6	15.9	15.3	- 0.3	+ 0.3
Educational Services	27.2	23.0	23.9	+ 4.2	+ 3.3
Social Services	18.5	18.0	18.5	+ 0.5	0
Membership Organizations	25.3	25.6	26.2	- 0.3	- 0.9
Miscellaneous Services	14.9	14.9	14.6	0	+ 0.3
GOVERNMENT	307.6	303.0	309.7	+ 4.6	- 2.1
Federal	36.0	36.3	36.6	- 0.3	- 0.6
State and Local	271.6	266.7	273.1	+ 4.9	- 1.5
State	94.3	87.8	97.2	+ 6.5	- 2.9
Local	177.3	178.9	175.9	- 1.6	+ 1.4

* Preliminary **Revised
(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries
(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication are prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, with the exception of the Lake Charles LMA which is prepared under the auspices of the Louisiana Department of Labor, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sept. '88*	Aug. '88**	Sept. '87**	Sept. '88*	Aug. '88**	Sept. '87**	Sept. '88*	Aug. '88**	Sept. '87**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$466.82	$465.13	$466.91	42.4	42.4	41.8	$11.01	$10.97	$11.17
Durable Goods	415.65	419.89	412.05	41.9	42.2	41.0	9.92	9.95	10.05
Lumber & Wood Products	353.56	351.05	357.28	42.7	42.5	41.4	8.28	8.26	8.63
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	367.34	356.29	375.66	40.5	39.5	40.7	9.07	9.02	9.23
Fabricated Metal Products	415.04	431.65	424.87	44.2	44.8	42.7	9.39	9.70	9.95
Machinery, ex. Electrical	389.67	399.77	395.10	41.9	43.5	43.9	9.30	9.19	9.00
Electric & Electronic Equip.	548.36	593.18	502.11	41.7	44.4	38.3	13.15	13.36	13.11
Transportation Equipment	442.95	429.20	435.05	40.6	40.0	39.3	10.91	10.73	11.07
Nondurable Goods	510.94	503.20	512.13	42.9	42.5	42.5	11.91	11.84	12.05
Food & Kindred Products	308.77	309.94	315.46	40.1	40.2	40.6	7.70	7.71	7.77
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	200.43	201.84	186.30	35.6	36.9	32.8	5.63	5.47	5.68
Paper & Allied Products	575.51	575.02	646.00	43.5	43.3	47.5	13.23	13.28	13.60
Printing & Publishing	403.64	395.96	407.20	38.7	38.0	40.0	10.43	10.42	10.18
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	743.38	708.69	731.34	47.5	45.4	45.2	15.65	15.61	16.18
Petroleum & Coal Products	747.30	728.86	708.53	49.1	47.7	46.4	15.22	15.28	15.27
Petroleum Refining	766.69	745.80	723.85	49.4	47.9	46.7	15.52	15.57	15.50
MINING	517.20	528.92	537.89	43.1	44.9	45.7	12.00	11.78	11.77
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	539.34	548.17	534.07	40.4	41.0	40.8	13.35	13.37	13.09
BANKING	270.48	272.69	259.20	36.8	37.0	38.4	7.35	7.37	6.75

(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 124,700 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 87,800 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

	PRELIMINARY 09 88				REVISED 08 88			
	LABOR FORCE	EMPL.	UNEMP	RATE	LABOR FORCE	EMPL.	UNEMP	RATE
CROWLEY (ACADIA)	22,775	20,150	2,625	11.6	22,600	19,625	2,975	13.2
OAKDALE (ALLEN)	10,025	8,875	1,150	11.4	9,800	8,675	1,125	11.5
NAPOLEONVILLE (ASSUMPTION)	6,000	5,125	875	14.8	5,950	4,975	975	16.4
BUNKIE (AVOYELLES)	15,550	13,225	2,325	15.0	15,750	13,175	2,575	16.3
DERIDDER (BEAUREGARD)	15,700	14,225	1,475	9.4	14,975	13,500	1,475	9.8
ARCADIA (BIENVILLE)	6,600	5,875	725	11.0	6,550	5,825	725	10.9
COLUMBIA (CALDWELL)	4,225	3,750	475	11.4	4,225	3,675	550	12.7
CAMERON (CAMERON)	4,750	4,375	375	7.9	4,700	4,325	375	7.8
JONESVILLE (CATAHOULA)	4,075	3,400	675	16.4	4,100	3,400	700	16.8
HOMER (CLAIBORNE)	8,150	7,450	700	8.6	8,075	7,375	700	8.6
FERRIDAY (CONCORDIA)	10,125	8,825	1,300	12.8	9,950	8,650	1,300	13.0
MANSFIELD (DESOTO)	13,150	11,650	1,500	11.4	13,225	11,750	1,475	11.2
LAKE PROVIDENCE (E. CARROLL)	4,100	3,525	575	14.2	4,150	3,400	750	18.1
CLINTON (EAST FELICIANA)	9,000	8,200	800	8.9	8,875	8,000	875	9.7
VILLE PLATTE(EVANGELINE)	13,050	11,500	1,550	11.8	12,725	11,125	1,600	12.5
WINNSBORO (FRANKLIN)	8,300	7,275	1,025	12.4	8,125	7,025	1,100	13.6
COLFAX (GRANT)	6,825	6,050	775	11.3	6,775	6,000	775	11.4
NEW IBERIA (IBERIA)	24,225	21,525	2,700	11.1	24,325	21,425	2,900	11.9
PLAQUEMINE (IBERVILLE)	11,475	9,825	1,650	14.4	11,525	9,725	1,800	15.5
JONESBORO (JACKSON)	7,325	6,825	500	6.9	7,225	6,675	550	7.7
JENNINGS (JEFFERSON DAVIS)	12,150	10,575	1,575	12.9	12,000	10,400	1,600	13.4
JENA (LASALLE)	6,675	6,000	675	10.2	6,500	5,825	675	10.2
RUSTON (LINCOLN)	18,475	17,575	900	4.9	16,800	15,900	900	5.4
TALLULAH (MADISON)	5,650	4,875	775	13.7	5,675	4,850	825	14.6
BASTROP (MOREHOUSE)	12,425	10,850	1,575	12.7	12,400	10,700	1,700	13.7
NATCHITOCHES (NATCHITOCHES)	16,725	15,225	1,500	9.0	16,150	14,550	1,600	9.9
POINT-A-LA-HACHE (PLAQUM.)	9,050	8,175	875	9.6	9,075	8,175	900	10.0
NEW ROADS (POINTE COUPEE)	7,425	6,125	1,300	17.4	7,375	5,950	1,425	19.3
COUSHATTA (RED RIVER)	4,225	3,725	500	11.9	4,100	3,675	425	10.3
RAYVILLE (RICHLAND)	9,025	7,925	1,100	12.2	9,025	7,800	1,225	13.7
MANY (SABINE)	10,100	9,275	825	8.2	10,150	9,275	875	8.5
GREENSBURG (ST. HELENA)	2,775	2,450	325	11.7	2,750	2,400	350	12.9
LUTCHER (ST. JAMES)	8,200	7,050	1,150	14.0	8,150	6,875	1,275	15.5
OPELOUSAS (ST. LANDRY)	33,325	28,350	4,975	14.9	33,300	27,950	5,350	16.1
MORGAN CITY (ST. MARY)	23,575	20,825	2,750	11.7	23,375	20,425	2,950	12.6
HAMMOND (TANGIPAHOA)	39,300	34,250	5,050	12.8	38,650	33,475	5,175	13.4
ST. JOSEPH (TENSAS)	3,125	2,850	275	9.2	3,050	2,775	275	9.3
FARMERVILLE (UNION)	8,650	7,725	925	10.7	8,525	7,600	925	10.8
ABBEVILLE (VERMILION)	19,925	17,475	2,450	12.3	19,475	17,075	2,400	12.4
LEESVILLE (VERNON)	19,425	17,875	1,550	8.0	19,325	17,750	1,575	8.2
BOGALUSA (WASHINGTON)	18,250	16,325	1,925	10.6	18,200	16,175	2,025	11.1
MINDEN (WEBSTER)	19,425	17,175	2,250	11.6	19,350	16,925	2,425	12.6
OAK GROVE (WEST CARROLL)	4,275	3,575	700	16.5	4,550	3,525	1,025	22.4
ST. FRANCISVILLE (W. FELIC.)	4,200	3,750	450	10.5	4,125	3,700	425	10.3
WINNFIELD (WINN)	5,700	5,250	450	7.9	5,600	5,125	475	8.4

NOTE: LABOR MARKET AREAS ARE DESIGNATED BY NAME OF PRINCIPAL TOWN, BUT INCLUDE ALL OF PARISH IN PARENTHESIS.

ABOVE DATA ROUNDED TO NEAREST 25 EXCEPT LMAS AND STATEWIDE WHICH ARE ROUNDED TO NEAREST 100. SUBTOTALS MAY NOT ADD TO TOTALS DUE TO ROUNDING. RATES COMPUTED FROM UNROUNDED DATA.

ALEXANDRIA AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	September 1988*	August 1988**	September 1987**	Net Change From August 1988	Net Change From September 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	45.7	45.6	46.0	+ 0.1	- 0.3
MANUFACTURING	3.4	3.4	3.5	0	- 0.1
Durable Goods	2.0	2.0	2.1	0	- 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.6	1.6	1.7	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	1.4	1.4	1.4	0	0
Food & Kindred Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.9	0.9	0.9	0	0
MINING	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.2	2.2	2.2	0	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	11.1	11.2	11.0	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Wholesale Trade	2.2	2.2	2.2	0	0
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
Retail Trade	8.9	9.0	8.8	- 0.1	+ 0.1
General Merchandise	2.0	2.1	1.9	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Auto Dlrs. & Svc. Sta.	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.4	2.4	2.3	0	+ 0.1
Other Retail Trade	3.5	3.5	3.6	0	- 0.1
FINANCE, INS., & REAL ESTATE	2.6	2.6	2.6	0	0
SERVICES	11.5	11.4	11.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Health Services	5.1	5.1	4.9	0	+ 0.2
GOVERNMENT	12.2	12.1	12.7	+ 0.1	- 0.5
Federal	2.7	2.7	2.7	0	0
State and Local	9.5	9.4	10.0	+ 0.1	- 0.5
State	4.5	4.6	4.9	- 0.1	- 0.4
Local	5.0	4.8	5.1	+ 0.2	- 0.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Alexandria labor market area was estimated at 45,700 during the month of September. This estimate was 100 more than last month and 300 less than September of last year.

Employment in manufacturing was estimated at 3,400 during September. This estimate was the same as the previous month. Since September of last year employment in manufacturing has declined by 100 with the reduction occurring in other durable goods.

Employment in nonmanufacturing was estimated at 42,300 during September. This estimate is 100 more than August, with an increase in local government and services, and a decrease in trade. Compared to September of last year, nonmanufacturing has declined by 200. The decline was primarily in government.

During the next thirty days, total nonagricultural employment and unemployment rates should remain about the same.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	September 1988*	August 1988**	September 1987**	Net Change From August 1988	Net Change From September 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	214.3	211.3	213.1	+ 3.0	+ 1.2
MANUFACTURING	18.7	18.7	18.5	0	+ 0.2
Durable Goods	3.9	4.0	3.9	- 0.1	0
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
Fabricated Metal Products	1.0	1.1	1.1	- 0.1	- 0.1
Other Durable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.6	0	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	14.8	14.7	14.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	1.9	1.8	1.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Printing & Publishing	1.4	1.4	1.4	0	0
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	10.2	10.2	10.2	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.3	1.3	1.2	0	+ 0.1
MINING	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	21.6	21.9	19.8	- 0.3	+ 1.8
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILTIES	10.5	10.5	10.4	0	+ 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	52.1	51.9	51.1	+ 0.2	+ 1.0
Wholesale Trade	11.6	11.6	11.2	0	+ 0.4
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	7.9	7.8	7.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	3.7	3.8	3.6	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	40.5	40.3	39.9	+ 0.2	+ 0.6
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	13.5	13.5	13.5	0	0
Banking	3.4	3.3	3.6	+ 0.1	- 0.2
SERVICES	44.1	43.9	43.7	+ 0.2	+ 0.4
GOVERNMENT	53.0	50.1	55.3	+ 2.9	- 2.3
Federal	2.2	2.2	2.2	0	0
State and Local	50.8	47.9	53.1	+ 2.9	- 2.3
State	28.3	25.2	30.6	+ 3.1	- 2.3
Local	22.5	22.7	22.5	- 0.2	0

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sept. '88*	Aug. '88**	Sept. '87**	Sept. '88*	Aug. '88**	Sept. '87**	Sept. '88*	Aug. '88**	Sept. '87**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$567.17	$549.10	$564.58	43.0	42.5	43.8	$13.19	$12.92	$12.89
Petro-Chemicals	735.30	724.96	731.40	46.1	46.0	46.0	15.95	15.76	15.90

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 12,200 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Baton Rouge LMA, at 214,300 during September, was up 3,000 from the August revised estimate and up 1,200 over the comparable period a year ago.

Employment in manufacturing, at 18,700, showed no change during the current period; however, it was up 200 over last September. Durable goods employment was down due to less business in fabricated metal products. The loss in durable goods was offset by an increase in nondurable goods due to more business in miscellaneous apparel and accessories and in miscellaneous plastics products.

Total nonmanufacturing was up 3,000 during the current period. Construction was down due to less business in heavy construction, except highway and street construction, and in electrical work. Retail trade was up due to seasonal increases in department stores, eating and drinking places, and motor vehicle dealers. Banking was up due to more business in commercial and stock savings banks. Services employment showed seasonal increases in elementary and secondary schools, and in correspondence and vocational schools. State government was up due to seasonal increases in state colleges, universities, professional schools, and junior colleges. Local government was down due to students leaving their summer jobs to return to school.

Average weekly earnings of the Baton Rouge LMA's 12,200 production workers in all manufacturing was $567.17, up $18.07 from the August revised average. Average weekly hours, at 43.0, were up 0.5 hours. Average hourly earnings, at $13.19, were up $0.27 per hour. More overtime worked at premium pay contributed to these changes.

Total employment of the Baton Rouge LMA's residents was 242,700 during September, up 3,700 from the revised August estimate and up 2,200 from the year-ago total. Unemployment, at 23,300, was down 900 during the current period and up 100 from September of last year. The local unemployment rate for September was 8.8 percent, down from the revised 9.2 percent for August and unchanged from the year-ago rate. Baton Rouge's civilian labor force totaled 266,000 during September, up 2,800 from the prior month and 2,300 over the total for last September.

The Baton Rouge Job Service Office served 2,760 individuals with new or renewal applications and placed 647 applicants in jobs during September, 1988.

The consumer price index for August, 1988 for all urban consumers was 119.0, and for all urban wage and clerical workers 117.7 using base period 1982-1984 = 100.

Seasonal increases are expected to continue in retail trade during the coming month, while unemployment will remain close to its present level.

HOUMA - THIBODAUX AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	September 1988*	August 1988**	September 1987**	Net Change From August 1988	Net Change From September 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	53.2	53.4	52.3	- 0.2	+ 0.9
MANUFACTURING	4.3	4.3	4.5	0	- 0.2
Durable Goods	3.0	3.0	2.7	0	+ 0.3
Nondurable Goods	1.3	1.3	1.8	0	- 0.5
MINING	6.0	6.2	5.8	- 0.2	+ 0.2
CONSTRUCTION	1.8	1.8	1.5	0	+ 0.3
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	6.4	6.3	5.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.9
Water Transportation	4.1	4.0	3.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.8
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	13.6	13.7	13.8	- 0.1	- 0.2
Wholesale Trade	2.8	2.9	2.9	- 0.1	- 0.1
Retail Trade	10.8	10.8	10.9	0	- 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	3.3	3.3	3.1	0	+ 0.2
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	2.1	2.2	2.3	- 0.1	- 0.2
SERVICES	9.0	9.1	8.6	- 0.1	+ 0.4
GOVERNMENT	10.0	9.8	10.3	+ 0.2	- 0.3
Federal	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
State and Local	9.5	9.3	9.8	+ 0.2	- 0.3
State	2.4	2.2	2.6	+ 0.2	- 0.2
Local	7.1	7.1	7.2	0	- 0.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Houma-Thibodaux LMA eased down to 53,200, showing an overall decrease of 200 since August. Most industry divisions either lost workers or showed no change. Gains in transportation and government prevented a larger overall downturn. However, total employment shows a gain of 900 since September 1987.

Manufacturing totaled 4,300 in September, unchanged from the previous month. Both the durable goods and nondurable goods segments remained unchanged over the month.

Mining showed a decrease due to layoffs in oil and gas field services. Construction held steady. Transportation and public utilities employment was boosted by a small gain in water transportation. Wholesale trade tapered off in both durable and nondurable goods. Finance, insurance, and real estate showed a minor overall decrease. Services reflected a small downturn spread through several segments. Government was favored by a seasonal gain in state educational services.

Estimated unemployment in September stood at 6,500, the same level as in August. Unemployment presently comprises 9.4 percent of the labor force, compared to 9.5 percent in August and 12.6 percent in August of last year. Recipients of regular unemployment insurance benefits totaled 765.

Nonagricultural employment in the coming months is expected to exhibit a small overall seasonal increase. Educational services will pull back up to normal levels as the fall semester moves further along. Retail trade will probably show a small gain with the start of the holiday season. Unemployment is predicted to display a small decrease.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	September 1988*	August 1988**	September 1987**	Net Change From August 1988	Net Change From September 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	83.2	83.7	80.8	- 0.5	+ 2.4
MANUFACTURING	5.9	5.9	5.8	0	+ 0.1
Durable Goods	1.5	1.5	1.4	0	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	4.4	4.4	4.4	0	0
Food & Kindred Products	1.4	1.4	1.5	0	- 0.1
MINING	10.6	10.7	10.5	- 0.1	+ 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	3.1	2.9	3.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	6.0	6.1	5.7	- 0.1	+ 0.3
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	23.1	23.2	21.8	- 0.1	+ 1.3
Wholesale Trade	5.3	5.4	5.1	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	3.1	3.2	3.0	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	2.2	2.2	2.1	0	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	17.8	17.8	16.7	0	+ 1.1
General Merchandise	2.9	2.9	2.7	0	+ 0.2
Food Stores	2.8	2.8	2.8	0	0
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.8	1.8	1.6	0	+ 0.2
Other Retail Trade	10.3	10.3	9.6	0	+ 0.7
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	3.6	3.7	3.9	- 0.1	- 0.3
Banking	1.1	1.1	1.2	0	- 0.1
SERVICES	18.7	19.1	18.3	- 0.4	+ 0.4
GOVERNMENT	12.2	12.1	11.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
Federal	0.8	0.8	0.9	0	- 0.1
State and Local	11.4	11.3	10.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
State	4.8	4.0	4.2	+ 0.8	+ 0.6
Local	6.6	7.3	6.7	- 0.7	- 0.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Lafayette LMA was estimated at 83,200 for September. This estimate is 500 less than last month's revised estimate, and is 2,400 above the September 1987 revised figure.

Manufacturing showed no change from last month. Mining employment decreased due to less demand for oil and gas. Construction rose by 200 and is 100 above the September 1987 level. Transportation and public utilities showed a loss of 100 workers. Wholesale and retail trade employment fell by 100 due to a decrease in the durable goods sector of wholesale trade; however, total trade was up 1,300 over last year's estimate primarily due to increased employment in eating and drinking places. Finance, insurance and real estate decreased by 100. Services showed a seasonal decrease of 400, reflecting the end of the racing season. Government was up by 100.

Employment should increase due to the holiday season drawing closer and educational institutions getting fully underway. The unemployment rate should remain stable for the next 30 days.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	September 1988*	August 1988**	September 1987**	Net Change From August 1988	Net Change From September 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	58.8	59.1	57.5	- 0.3	+ 1.3
MANUFACTURING	11.0	11.0	11.0	0	0
Durable Goods	2.5	2.5	2.6	0	- 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	2.3	2.3	2.4	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	8.5	8.5	8.4	0	+ 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	0.2	0.2	0.3	0	- 0.1
Chemical & Pet. Products	7.7	7.7	7.6	0	+ 0.1
Other Nondurable Goods	0.6	0.6	0.5	0	+ 0.1
MINING	0.9	0.9	0.9	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	4.1	4.2	3.7	- 0.1	+ 0.4
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	3.9	4.1	3.9	- 0.2	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	14.2	14.2	14.4	0	- 0.2
Wholesale Trade	2.9	2.8	2.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	11.3	11.4	11.6	- 0.1	- 0.3
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.1	2.1	2.1	0	0
Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.3	1.3	1.2	0	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	3.7	3.7	3.9	0	- 0.2
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	2.9	2.9	2.8	0	+ 0.1
Banking	1.1	1.1	1.0	0	+ 0.1
SERVICES	11.6	11.5	10.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.5	0.6	0.5	- 0.1	0
Personal Services	0.5	0.4	0.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
GOVERNMENT	10.2	10.3	9.9	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Federal	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
State and Local	9.6	9.7	9.3	- 0.1	+ 0.3
State	3.2	3.3	3.6	- 0.1	- 0.4
Local	6.4	6.4	5.7	0	+ 0.7

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Lake Charles LMA was estimated at 58,800 for September, a decrease of 300 from the previous month, and 1,300 higher than September 1987.

Both manufacturing and mining showed no change from last month. Construction was down by 100 due to seasonal factors. Transportation and public utilities showed a decrease of 200, due in part to unfavorable weather conditions. Wholesale and retail trade was unchanged from August, as was finance, insurance and real estate. Services employment rose by 100, mostly in business services and health services. State government showed a decline of 100, effecting a decrease in government employment.

Employment in wholesale and retail trade is expected to increase over the next month, while the unemployment rate will remain stable.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	September 1988*	August 1988**	September 1987**	Net Change From August 1988	Net Change From September 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	53.9	52.8	54.0	+ 1.1	- 0.1
MANUFACTURING	7.4	7.1	7.1	+ 0.3	+ 0.3
Durable Goods	2.3	2.1	2.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	2.1	1.9	2.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	5.1	5.0	4.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
Chemical & Allied Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	3.9	3.8	3.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
MINING	0.3	0.4	0.4	- 0.1	- 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	2.6	2.7	2.7	- 0.1	- 0.1
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.6	2.6	2.9	0	- 0.3
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	13.8	13.9	14.4	- 0.1	- 0.6
Wholesale Trade	3.7	3.9	3.8	- 0.2	- 0.1
Retail Trade	10.1	10.0	10.6	+ 0.1	- 0.5
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.3	2.3	2.4	0	- 0.1
Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta.	1.0	1.0	1.2	0	- 0.2
Eating & Drinking Places	3.3	3.2	3.5	+ 0.1	- 0.2
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	4.6	4.5	4.6	+ 0.1	0
Banking	1.0	1.0	1.1	0	- 0.1
SERVICES	12.0	11.7	11.6	+ 0.3	+ 0.4
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Personal Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Health Services	5.3	5.3	5.1	0	+ 0.2
GOVERNMENT	10.6	9.9	10.3	+ 0.7	+ 0.3
Federal	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
State and Local	10.0	9.3	9.7	+ 0.7	+ 0.3
State	4.6	4.0	4.6	+ 0.6	0
Local	5.4	5.3	5.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.3

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment, estimated at 53,900, was 1,100 above the August estimate of 52,800. The primary reason for the increase was the beginning of the fall semester at educational facilities.

Manufacturing, estimated at 7,400, was up by 300 workers and reflects primarily the call-back of employees on temporary lay-off in durable goods. Nondurable goods was up by 100.

Mining showed a minimal decline of 100, as did construction. Wholesale and retail trade, estimated at 13,800, was 100 below the August estimate. Finance, insurance and real estate rose minimally to 4,600 workers. Services rose by 300 reflecting the start of the fall semester in private educational facilities. Government, estimated at 10,600, was up by 700 workers. This was primarily in educational facilities.

Employment is expected to remain relatively stable until after the first of the year. Unemployment will remain high.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	September 1988*	August 1988**	September 1987**	Net Change From August 1988	Net Change From September 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	512.3	517.0	509.7	- 4.7	+ 2.6
MANUFACTURING	42.9	43.4	41.9	- 0.5	+ 1.0
Durable Goods	22.1	22.4	20.4	- 0.3	+ 1.7
Lumber and Wood Products	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	1.3	1.3	1.2	0	+ 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	2.2	2.3	2.2	- 0.1	0
Machinery	2.7	2.7	2.6	0	+ 0.1
Transportation Equipment	13.5	13.7	11.9	- 0.2	+ 1.6
Ship & Boatbuilding & Repairing	9.9	10.0	8.2	- 0.1	+ 1.7
Other Durable Goods	2.0	2.0	2.0	0	0
Nondurable Goods	20.8	21.0	21.5	- 0.2	- 0.7
Food & Kindred Products	5.8	6.0	6.1	- 0.2	- 0.3
Apparel & Other Textile Products	1.7	1.7	1.8	0	- 0.1
Paper & Allied Products	0.7	0.7	0.8	0	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	3.7	3.7	3.8	0	- 0.1
Chemicals and Allied Products	4.0	4.0	3.9	0	+ 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	4.5	4.5	4.7	0	- 0.2
Other Nondurable Goods	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
MINING	15.2	15.1	14.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
Oil & Gas Extraction	14.3	14.2	13.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.6
CONSTRUCTION	22.1	22.4	21.9	- 0.3	+ 0.2
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	44.7	44.3	43.4	+ 0.4	+ 1.3
Railroad Transportation	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Water Transportation	13.8	13.4	12.4	+ 0.4	+ 1.4
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	132.5	132.3	135.4	+ 0.2	- 2.9
Wholesale Trade	31.9	31.8	31.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	18.2	18.2	18.0	0	+ 0.2
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	13.7	13.6	13.7	+ 0.1	0
Retail Trade	100.6	100.5	103.7	+ 0.1	- 3.1
General Merchandise	13.8	13.8	13.9	0	- 0.1
Food Stores	18.2	18.1	19.0	+ 0.2	- 0.7
Eating & Drinking Places	34.1	34.4	35.3	- 0.3	- 1.2
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	33.6	33.7	34.3	- 0.1	- 0.7
Banking	7.2	7.3	7.2	- 0.1	0
SERVICES	137.0	137.3	133.5	- 0.3	+ 3.5
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	13.2	13.4	12.6	- 0.2	+ 0.6
Health Services	36.9	37.0	36.3	- 0.1	+ 0.6
GOVERNMENT	84.3	88.5	84.6	- 4.2	- 0.3
Federal	15.8	15.8	16.0	0	- 0.2
State and Local	68.5	72.7	68.6	- 4.2	- 0.1
State	18.6	18.4	18.8	+ 0.2	- 0.2
Local	49.9	54.3	49.8	- 4.4	+ 0.1

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sept. '88*	Aug. '88**	Sept. '87**	Sept. '88*	Aug. '88**	Sept. '87**	Sept. '88*	Aug. '88**	Sept. '87**
All MANUFACTURING	$436.59	$428.98	$427.73	40.5	40.7	39.9	$10.78	$10.54	$10.72
Durable Goods	373.62	377.78	383.57	39.0	39.6	39.1	9.58	9.54	9.81
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	253.12	221.00	279.00	28.0	25.0	30.0	9.04	8.84	9.30
Fabricated Metal Products	355.29	430.86	384.15	35.6	42.2	39.4	9.98	10.21	9.75
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	358.49	353.02	358.33	39.7	39.4	37.6	9.03	8.96	9.53
Nondurable Goods	505.96	486.04	468.12	42.2	41.9	40.6	11.99	11.60	11.53
Food & Kindred Products	324.80	312.08	313.90	36.7	37.6	36.5	8.85	8.30	8.60
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	193.31	174.41	156.26	36.2	33.8	30.7	5.34	5.16	5.09
Paper & Allied Products	366.36	410.90	426.82	43.0	46.8	45.6	8.52	8.78	9.36
Printing & Publishing	373.18	383.94	396.18	39.2	39.5	42.6	9.52	9.72	9.30
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	810.88	734.35	731.29	49.9	47.5	43.4	16.25	15.46	16.85

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 30,000 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the New Orleans LMA in September decreased to 512,300, a level 4,700 below August. The largest decreases were in government and were seasonal in nature. Over the year, nonagricultural employment gained 2,600 workers, with losses in some industry divisions offset by larger gains in other divisions.

Manufacturing employment totaled 42,900, down 500 from the previous month. The fabricated metal products and transportation equipment segments of manufacturing sustained losses due to less business. Food and kindred products also showed a decrease due to seasonal factors as the summer growing season ended.

Mining edged up over the previous month with gains shown in the oil and gas field services segment. Over the last year, oil and gas field services have been the primary determinant of growth in mining in this area, adding approximately 600 workers to the labor force. Construction moved downward with losses mostly due to the decrease in special trade contracts. Increases in local port activity contributed notably to the gains made in transportation and public utilities. Wholesale and retail trade made slight upward adjustments. Finance, insurance, and real estate inched down, partly reflecting layoffs of summer workers hired by banks and miscellaneous credit agencies. Services showed a small overall decrease, with seasonal increases in education offset by scattered decreases in many other segments. Government exhibited a marked downturn in employment primarily due to the layoff of summer student workers by local government.

Production workers in the area earned an average of $436.59 per week in September, up $7.61 from last month's average. Average weekly hours were 40.5, down 12 minutes from the previous month. Average hourly earnings were $10.78, up $0.24 from the previous month. Compared to one year ago, weekly earnings are up $8.86 in manufacturing.

Estimated unemployment in September decreased to 52,400, a level 900 below August. Seasonal factors were partly responsible for the decrease. Joblessness presently comprises 8.7 percent of the labor force compared with 8.8 percent in August, and 9.2 percent in September of last year. The September rate was lower than the state rate of 9.7 percent. Recipients of regular unemployment benefits totaled 8,427.

Nonagricultural employment in the coming months is expected to show an overall increase. Public and private educational services will probably add workers for the fall semester. Retail trade will show normal seasonal increases as the holiday season approaches. Unemployment is expected to show some decrease.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	September 1988*	August 1988**	September 1987**	Net Change From August 1988	Net Change From September 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	131.9	131.5	133.4	+ 0.4	- 1.5
MANUFACTURING	17.4	17.3	17.5	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Durable Goods	12.5	12.5	12.6	0	- 0.1
Lumber and Wood Products	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
Metals and Machinery	7.3	7.4	7.2	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Primary and Fabricated Metals	1.6	1.6	1.4	0	+ 0.2
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	5.7	5.8	5.8	- 0.1	- 0.1
Other Durable Goods	4.8	4.7	4.9	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Nondurable Good	4.9	4.8	4.9	+ 0.1	0
Food & Kindred Products	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Printing & Publishing	1.3	1.2	1.4	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	2.2	2.2	2.1	0	+ 0.1
MINING	2.9	2.9	3.3	0	- 0.4
CONSTRUCTION	7.8	7.9	7.4	- 0.1	+ 0.4
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	8.1	8.1	8.2	0	- 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	31.6	31.7	32.6	- 0.1	- 1.0
Wholesale Trade	7.5	7.6	7.9	- 0.1	- 0.4
Retail Trade	24.1	24.1	24.7	0	- 0.6
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	6.9	7.1	7.4	- 0.2	- 0.5
SERVICES	32.7	33.1	32.6	- 0.4	+ 0.1
GOVERNMENT	24.5	23.4	24.4	+ 1.1	+ 0.1
Federal	4.7	4.7	4.7	0	0
State and Local	19.8	18.7	19.7	+ 1.1	+ 0.1
State	5.9	5.9	5.9	0	0
Local	13.9	12.8	13.8	+ 1.1	+ 0.1

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sept. '88*	Aug. '88**	Sept. '87**	Sept. '88*	Aug. '88**	Sept. '87**	Sept. '88*	Aug. '88**	Sept. '87**
All MANUFACTURING	$476.63	$494.68	$470.42	41.7	42.1	40.8	$11.43	$11.75	$11.53
Lumber and Wood Products	308.39	295.68	273.64	38.5	38.5	37.9	8.01	7.68	7.22
Metals and Machinery	469.58	528.54	497.12	43.2	46.0	42.2	10.87	11.49	11.78
Food and Kindred Products	339.81	349.32	335.55	41.9	37.4	42.8	8.11	9.34	7.84
Printing and Publishing	353.79	343.28	341.35	36.7	35.1	35.3	9.64	9.78	9.67
Petroleum and Coal Products	586.65	558.93	545.71	52.1	46.5	45.4	11.26	12.02	12.02

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 12,600 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Shreveport area increased to 131,900, up from the revised August estimate of 131,500, but 1,500 less than the September 1987 estimate.

Manufacturing employment, estimated at 17,400, is relatively unchanged from both the revised August estimate of 17,300, and the September 1987 estimate of 17,500.

Nonmanufacturing employment shows a small increase to 114,500, up from 114,200 in August, but remains below the year-ago total of 115,900. The largest change since last month was in local government, showing an increase in local education due to the start of the school year. The increased payroll in local education offset job losses in construction, trade, services, and finance, insurance and real estate.

The Shreveport labor market area had 12,600 production workers in manufacturing with average weekly earnings of $476.63, down $18.05 from the August average, and up $6.21 from one year ago. Average weekly hours dropped slightly to 41.7, down from the August average of 42.1 and up from the year-ago average of 40.8 hours. Average hourly earnings of $11.43 show a decrease from $11.75 in August and were slightly less than last September's average of $11.53.

The civilian labor force for this area, estimated at 164,600, includes 149,300 employed and 15,300 unemployed. The unemployment rate for September was 9.3 percent.

Total unemployment for this area is expected to show only minor improvement through October, while total nonagricultural employment remains mostly unchanged. Manufacturing is expected to lose production workers within the next 30 to 60 days.

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